CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO SUPPLEMENTAL DOCKET NUMBER 2 FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

ADOPTION AGENDA, DISCUSSION, OTHER LEGISLATIVE ITEM

RESOLUTION:

ITEM-S500: Reward for Information Concerning Structure Fires Occurring on August 1, and September 19, 2003.

MAYOR MURPHY'S RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the following resolution:

(R-2004-370)

Authorizing the City Auditor and Comptroller to reallocate \$25,000 from the General Fund Citywide Office Space Program (Fund No. 100, Dept. No. 601, Org. No. 2501, Account No. 4279, and Job Order No. 002501) to establish a reward fund in the amount of \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of responsible parties, who caused fires by arson in University City on August 1, 2003, and fires occurring in Torrey Highlands and Pacific Highlands Ranch areas on September 19, 2003.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

Arsonists are suspected to be responsible for setting fires that recently damaged five structures in the City of San Diego. The first was set on August 1, 2003, destroying the La Jolla Crossroads Project, a five story, 206-unit condominium complex under construction in University City with a loss estimated to be \$50 million dollars. Four additional fires were set on September 19, 2003, in the Torrey Highlands and Pacific Highlands Ranch areas of the City. Three homes under construction were destroyed and another home was damaged. According to arson investigators, initial damage estimate was set at \$500,000.

All tips or leads on these fires are being referred to the San Diego Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at (858) 565-1255.

It is recommended that the City establish a reward of \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of individuals who may be responsible for the arson fires.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds for this reward will be made available from FY 2004 General Fund.

Kern/Ewell/LR

Aud. Cert. 2400347.